

Network



Volume 14, Issue 7

July 2022

A Message from Pastor Leslie

A Note of Care

As I write these words, the world outside is rumbling with reactions to the Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade, halting almost 50 years of federal abortion access. This is a tender issue and one we in the church have struggled with for centuries. Over the next weeks, we will create opportunities to talk about our theology and the ELCA social statement on abortion, offering some space for holy conversation on what this means for us as followers of Jesus.

But in these early days, I would simply ask us to be gentle with one another. Honor the image of God in each other as arguments and differences are bound to arise. Listen to one another in empathy, knowing that the end of a pregnancy for any reason is never an easy decision, and more than just the life of the unborn hangs in the balance. Let's resist defaulting to a binary of right and wrong and open our hearts to listen to stories of those who are directly affected by reproductive rights legislation.

It's immensely complex, but when the church lives into her call to love our neighbors in all their complexities, that is when the transforming love of Christ changes lives in unimaginable ways. It is not easy, dear ones, but it is our call.

And if these conversations and the Supreme Court ruling are bringing up memories or feelings for you that are difficult, please reach out to one of the pastors or a health professional you trust. You do not have to walk this road alone.

In this together,
Pastor Leslie

A Note of Thanks

There are not enough words to express the gratitude of my heart at your welcome of Asher and me these past months as lead pastor here at SALC. What joy to begin getting to know you, to hear your stories of life together in this place, and to dream about what we might do as Christ's church in the months and years ahead.

On June 11, we gathered in person and online to celebrate and officially mark this new beginning. Thank you for that day! For your presence, prayers, and accompaniment in this journey, I am so very grateful. Thank you also for the basket of gardening joys, beautiful plant, and lovely reception that gave us even more time to celebrate. I love you, Saint Andrew. Let's envision big with the Holy Spirit's leading and be bold to share Christ's love in this community. You are a blessing!

Love,
Pastor Leslie



The life and ministry of Saint Andrew Lutheran Church shall be open to all who wish to express their faith in God through Jesus Christ by *worship, learning, witness and service.*

-From Mission Statement-



150202 County Road NN
Wausau, WI 54401-7275
715.842.3333 (FEED)
www.salc-wausau.org



Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Weekly Worship

Thursday: 12:15 + 6:30—Campfire
Sunday: 9:00 am—Livestreamed
10:45 am

SALC SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 am-4:30 pm
Friday: Closed

A Note from Pastor Justin

REFLECTIONS ON A SPIRITUAL TRIP

Shukran Habibi (Arabic for "Thanks, Dear Friends")

Thank you, my friends, for the prayers and support for my trip to the Holy Land this year and allowing me the time to encounter the deep history of a region that has been important to the nations of the world for millennia.

On the journey, I and my travelling companions—seminarians, pastors, professors, and others who had a connection to the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, my alma mater—experienced the cities and trade routes, the ruins and tells, the stories and the legends that surround the land that Jesus walked.

At each of those places, the scholar in me appreciated reconnecting with the history and the politics of the region before, during, and after Jesus' life, while the storyteller in me relished the sound of the gravel under my feet as we walked the hills of Judea, the immense size of the ancient stones of Jerusalem, and the feeling of standing in the places where Jesus stood.

Some of you were concerned for my safety because the region always seems like a powder keg. While we did make some adjustments for the unrest after the IDF disrupted the funeral procession for murdered Palestinian journalist Shireen Abu Akleh, I was able to hear the stories of Christians whose families have been worshiping the crucified and risen Christ for 2,000 years.

While there is not enough space here to go through the trip in great detail, know that I will be making time to share with you my insights on this incredibly meaningful spiritual.

Thank you again — Pr. Justin



Photo taken outside Al-Aqsa Mosque—also known as the Dome of the Rock

Pr. Justin is on the right

SALC BLOOD DRIVE DAY

Monday, July 25

12:00-5:00 pm

Mark your calendar! A blood drive supporting the American Red Cross takes place **July 25** from noon to 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Appointments are helpful and can be made online at www.redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins are welcome.

Two volunteers are also needed to help with registration, refreshments, or other support.

Please contact Jan Nelson at 715-470-0038 or

jannelson.79@gmail.com if you have questions or want to volunteer.



PRAYERS FOR UKRAINE

Wednesday, July 20—5:00 pm

First United Methodist

As the war in Ukraine approaches the fourth continuous month, the nation's news cycles have moved onto the events happening in our country and world. But we have not forgotten. Throughout the spring, clergy from the Wausau area gather to pray for those impacted by the war, pray for peace, and pray for the day when wars will cease. You are invited to join with local clergy and religious leaders to pray **Wednesday, July 20 at 5 pm** at **First United Methodist Church of Wausau**. If you are unable to join us, please take a moment that evening wherever you are and pray for Ukraine. Peace — Pr. Justin

BAPTISM ORIENTATION

During the summer season, orientation for families anticipating a baptism will be scheduled by appointment. Please call the church office at 715-842-3333 if you would like to schedule a time.

NOISY OFFERING

Bring your change **Thursday and Sunday, July 14 and 17** during worship in support of Crossways Camping Ministry August 8-11 at Waypost Camp.

Ministry Night Meetings

There is no Ministry Night in July. Regular ministry meetings will resume August 2.

SEEKING SALC SEXTON

Saint Andrew is seeking a high school student to share Sunday Sexton responsibilities beginning in August 2022. The Sexton will collaborate with the pastors, staff, and lay leadership to help make sure Sunday and Thursday worship at Saint Andrew proceeds smoothly. This is a paid position and monthly schedules are worked out based on availability. If you are interested, please send an email to personnel@salc-wausau.org by **July 16, 2021** and an interview will be scheduled.

LANDSCAPE HELP NEEDED

**Monday and Tuesday, July 5th and 6th
8am – Noon (weather permitting)**

Help is needed to remove, relocate, and trim some of our landscaping areas at Saint Andrew especially on the west end of the building. No need to sign-up, please come as you are able and dress appropriately for outside work (gloves and closed toed-shoes are highly recommended.) Refreshments will be provided!

TIME FOR SUMMER CAMP!

Summer is here, and that means time for summer camp at Saint Andrew!



Vacation Bible School 2022: Camp Creation
August 8-11, 9:00 am-12:00 pm; ages 4-7
Cost is \$15/child (maximum \$30 per family)

At VBS, children will dive into the creation story and explore all the ways we are surrounded by God's love.



Day Camp at Waypost
August 8-11, 9:30 am- 3:30 pm
3rd-6th Grades; Cost is \$20/child

Children entering grades 3-6 are invited to Waypost Camp for 4 days of camp fun! Hiking, swimming, crafts, and games will be lead by the Waypost camp counselors.

Registration forms are available on the SALC website: www.salc-wausau.org. **Financial assistance is available for all camps.** Questions? Contact: [Jenna at jenna@salc-wausau.org](mailto:jenna@salc-wausau.org) or 715-842-3333.

CHECK IT OUT—THE SALC LIBRARY

What's new in the library?

There's always something interesting to find in the Saint Andrew library. Summer is a perfect time to find that new read and learn something new. Right now, we're featuring a display of new adult fiction books! But that's not all...look for these subjects coming soon:

- New children's books
- Books regarding today's Holy Land —from varying perspectives.

Be sure to check us out!



A\$K FINANCE ANSWERS

Some answers to your SALC finance questions

Thanks to all those who turned in questions for us to answer. We are off to a good start. Here are a few topics you wondered about:

—**How much does Saint Andrew give to the ELCA each year?** Saint Andrew tries to give about 5% of our spending plan (exclusive of mortgage spending) as mission support to the East Central Synod of Wisconsin (ECSW). They forward 50% to the churchwide ELCA. In 2019 we gave \$31,800, in 2020 and 2021 we gave \$37,200, and for 2022 we pledged \$37,250.

—**Where did the money come from to pay for the sanctuary carpeting?** The sanctuary renewal project was intended to be paid for through the **\$40 for 40** fundraising appeal. Unfortunately, the pandemic shut down that effort and we only ended up with \$68,658 so far. Total costs for the project including lighting, painting, and carpeting totaled \$99,175. The remaining balance came from the Property Budget. We are still requesting and receiving contributions to the **\$40 for 40** fund, so those people who did not have a chance to donate before COVID can give now.

—**How much of our offerings are made electronically?** It varies slightly from month to month, but giving through TOE amounts to about 42.5% of our offerings and Vanco is about 9%, so about 51% is being done electronically. Thanks for all your questions. We will be answering 2 or 3 of them in each Network. You can also find other questions/answers on the Finance/Stewardship bulletin board. If you have questions about how church finances are used, place them in the black box labeled **A\$K FINANCE** is in the Narthex.

Saint Andrew Spending Plan

Looking back at May 2022:

Average attendance	379
Your gifts returned to God	\$ 46,543
Ministry costs for Saint Andrew	\$ 59,360
Gifts greater (less) than costs	\$ (12,817)



For more information, please see the Finance and Stewardship bulletin board just outside the office.

Pastoral Home Visits

If you, or someone you know, would like to have a pastor visit you at your home, let us know. Contact the church office to schedule a one-time or regular visit.

SALC Memorial Gifts

Thank you for all gifts received in honor or in memory of someone special. If you would like to give a memorial gift to Saint Andrew, please contact the church office.

WEEKLY WORSHIP AT HOME

Services Available on Facebook and Charter/Spectrum

Sunday worship is livestreamed on the SALC Facebook page each week. It is also recorded and can be found on Charter/Spectrum channel 980 on the following days and times:

Tuesday 2:00 pm	Friday 6:00 pm
Thursday 10:30 am	Sunday 7:00 am

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Sundays, July 17, 24, and 31

New Member Orientation will be held on the following Sundays: July 17 and 24, at 10:00 am.

New members will then be received during the 9:00 am worship service on July 31. If you or someone you know is interested in joining Saint Andrew, please call the church office at 715-842-3333.



PRAYER CENTER

As you review the day to day list of events that take place at Saint Andrew, please also give consideration to those who have requested prayers. Do you know of someone who is in need of prayer (*please ask first*)? Call the church office at 842-3333 to have names added. The list will be updated regularly.

FOR THESE WE PRAY...

Anne	Cindy	Jean	Monica	Shirley	Jill
Annette	Zak & Kathy	Jeff & Shannon	Nikki	Terry	Ben
Ashley	Charles	Jennifer	Pam	Thomas	
Barbara	Dan	Jesse	Patricia	Tim	
Bella	Diane	Joe	Ralph	Tracy	
Bev	Diane	John	Renee	Zurn	
Bob	Ed	Kay	Rick & Tary	Amy	
Bob G.	Ellie	Kristin	Riley	Frank	
Brad & Lisa	Gary	Leann	Robin	Katie	
Brent	Hilmar & Rose-	Linda	Sandy	Judy	
Bryan	mary	Monica	Sandy	Cullen	



Thank you, Lord, for always answering prayer, but not indulging my every petty, private request. Thank you for winnowing and refining, vetoing and delaying, refusing and revising. Thank you for being God and never less, for freeing me for wide horizons, for protecting me from my limited vision and wayward will. Thank you for foiling my every effort to unseat you and make myself king. Thank you for keeping it safe for me to pray.

—Gerhard E. Frost

From *Seasons of a Lifetime: A Treasury of Meditations* (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, 1989, p. 118)



July 2022



CROSSWAYS
CAMPING MINISTRIES

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday																																																																																					
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**150202 County Road NN
Wausau, WI 54401-7275**

Parish Staff

Rev. Leslie O'Callagahn, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Justin Smoot, *Pastor*
Rev. Jeff Martinson, *Visitation Pastor*
Jenna Diedrich, *Faith Formation Coordinator*
Kerry Fehrman, *Bookkeeper*
Patrick Kieper, *Facility Coordinator*
Joy Mitchell, *Administrative Secretary*
Dave Paisar, *Custodian*

Upcoming Events/Activities

4
10-15
25

JULY

Office Closed for Holiday
Confirmation Camp
SALC Blood Drive

8-11
8-11
TBD

AUGUST

Vacation Bible School
Day Camp
Pet Sunday

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 am-4:30 pm



SALC is on Facebook! Follow the link on the Saint Andrew website and click "like" to keep up with the latest news and events!